

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG ETRD RO

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO US BUSINESS: ROMANIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY PROJECT

1. MINISTER OF HEAVY MACHINERY AVRAM MADE A SPECIAL APPEAL TO AMBASSADOR, DURING MEETING WE REQUESTED, TO DISCUSS AREAS OF POSSIBLE POTENTIAL FOR US-ROMANIAN TRADE AND COOPERATION IN HEAVY MACHINERY INDUSTRY AS WELL AS TO REVIEW THE STATUS OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION. AVRAM REFERRED TO DISCUSSIONS HIS MINISTRY OFFICIALS HELD WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF GENERAL ELECTRIC AND WESTINGHOUSE CONCERNING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN ROMANIA. WHILE THE RESPONSE FROM BOTH FIRMS WAS POSITIVE, AVRAM WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN G.E. OFFER TO SEND TEAM OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO BUCHAREST TO REVIEW ROMANIAN REQUIREMENTS ON-THE-SPOT. SINCE THE INITIAL OFFER, MADE SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, ACCORDING TO AVRAM, DURING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE US-ROMANIAN COUNCIL, THE MINISTER HAS HEARD NOTHING FURTHER FROM G.E., BUT STILL REMAINS VERY INTERESTED IN STARTING SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH G.E. OFFICIALS ON THIS PROJECT.

2. ELECTRICAL ENERGY, AND ESPECIALLY NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY INDUSTRY MARKED FOR RAPID GROWTH IN THE NEXT ROMANIAN ECONOMIC FIVE YEAR PLAN, AND COULD BE AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF EXPANDED US TRADE. WE REQUEST, THEREFORE, THAT COMMERCE GET IN

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TOUCH WITH G.E. HEADQUARTERS TO DISCUSS THIS MAJOR TRADE POSSIBILITY

WITH A VIEW TO URGING FIRM TO FOLLOW-UP ITS EARLIER OFFER. SUGGEST
HOYT STEELE, WHO WAS HERE FOR ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING, BE POINT OF
CONTACT.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

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